

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Lightning is the second greatest storm-related killer in the United States, second only to floods; and,

Whereas, Lightning kills more people in the United States than either tornadoes or hurricanes; and,

Whereas, Lightning inflicts devastating life-long, severe injuries on more people than it kills; and,

Whereas, The greatest threat to lightning is to those outdoors; and,

Whereas, South Dakota's enjoyable summer climate and wealth of outdoor recreational activities make residents and visitors more vulnerable to being struck by lightning; and,

Whereas, The vast majority of lightning casualties can be avoided with the proper preventative actions; and,

Whereas, The key to understanding the dangers of lightning is through education and awareness; and,

Whereas, The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Weather Service has proclaimed Lightning Safety Awareness Week from June 20-26, 2004:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim June 20-26, 2004, as

LIGHTNING SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK

in South Dakota, and I call upon all citizens, government agencies, and civic organizations in the state to acquaint themselves with the dangers of lightning and to take the appropriate actions to minimize the risk of lightning deaths and injuries.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-seventh Day of May in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.


M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:


Chris Nelson, Secretary of State